CLAIMS

We claim:

1.   A method for automatically managing energy cost using metering data and pricing data comprising the steps of:

receiving metering data from an electric meter, wherein the metering data is electronically transmitted from said electric meter;

receiving pricing data, wherein the pricing data is associated with a plurality of sources of power;

forecasting a forecast load based on the received metering data from the electric meter; and

determining an optimal consumption decision based on the received pricing data and the forecast load.

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